

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2601

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

CONFIDENTIAL CARACAS 5268

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PERP PINS DR

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN SITUATION

REF: CARACAS 5187

1. IN A LONG CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR JUNE 8, PRESIDENT PEREZ COMMENTED THAT DOMINICAN VICE PRESIDENT ELECT MAJLUTA (BUT NOT PENA GOMEZ) DID ARRIVE IN CARACAS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AFTER A DELAYED (FOR REASONS UNSPECIFIED) DEPARTURE. PEREZ ALSO EX-PLAINED THAT HE HAD FIRST CHECKED WITH BALAGUER TO ASCERTAIN IF HE HAD ANY PROBLEMS WITH MAJLUTA ACCEPTING AN INVITATION FROM PEREZ TO COME TO CARACAS BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT "TO DO ANYTHING BEHIND BALAGUER'S BACK."

2. HIS PURPOSE, PEREZ SAID, WAS TO OBTAIN A FIRST HAND VERSION OF THE SITUATION AND TO COUNSEL THE PRD TO REMAIN COOL AND MODERATE. PEREZ SAID THAT MAJLUTA WAS CALM AND NOT OVERLY PESSIMISTIC, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS CONCERN OVER THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING THE ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE).

3. PEREZ SAID THAT HE THOUGHT BALAGUER NOW HELD
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THE KEY. WHILE AT THE BEGINNING THE MILITARY MAY HAVE BEEN PEREPPARED TO ACT EVEN IN DEFIANCE OF BALAGUER, THEY WOULD NOT DO SO NOW. IT WAS IMPORTANT, THEREFORE, TO CONVINCE BALAGUER THAT HIS PLACE IN HISTORY NOW DEPENDED ON HIS TURNING OVER POWER TO A DULY ELECTED PERSON. BALAGUER THEREFORE HAD A CHANCE TO BE A HERO. HE THOUGHT THAT THIS CONCEPT SHOULD BE STRESSED TO

BALAGUER IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE.

4. PEREC SAID HE HAD THOUGHT OF SUGGESTING TO TORRIJOS THAT THE LATTER INVITE LOPEZ MICHELSON AND THE COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT-ELECT ALONG WITH BALAGUER AND GUZMAN, THUS PUBLICLY LEGITIMIZING THE LATTER SITUATION. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE PICTURE INCOLOMBIA THIS DID NOT NOW APPEAR FEASIBLE.

5. PEREZ SAID THAT HE HAD INHIS POSSESSION TAPES OF CONVERSATIONS IN WHICHTHE ARREST OF THEOFFICIAL WHO HEADS THE JCE COMPUTER CENTER WAS PLANNED AS WELL AS OTHER SIMILAR TAPES. IT WAS CLEAR TO HIM, HE SAID, THAT "MANIOBRAS" WERE PLANNED. HE THOUGHT, THE PRESIDENT SAID, THAT IT WASNECESSARY NOW TO MAINTAIN QUIET,FIRM PRESSURE ONALL CONCERNED TO AVOID ANY "GOLPISTA" ADVENTURE.

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